

The sad reality is that it did not have to be this way. Ortega could have chosen a different path, and won the support of the Nicaraguan people by trusting them and treating them with respect, and allowing those with different views to speak freely. Instead, he chose repression and has held onto power through force and by blaming everyone but himself for Nicaragua's chronic under-development. On November 7, with the opposition silenced and hidden away, he and his wife will likely be victorious in another sham election, a farce that will fool nobody.

I join those in condemning the repressive tactics of the Ortega government and in calling for the immediate and unconditional release of Felix Maradiaga, Juan Sebastian Chamorro, Arturo Cruz, and the many other political prisoners falsely accused or imprisoned without charge. I urge the Nicaraguan Government to end the repression of dissidents, the shootings of peaceful protestors, and the crackdown on press freedom and voting rights.

It is no secret that the United States and Nicaragua have had a difficult history. The United States was the primary benefactor of the dictatorial Somoza family, which ruled the country for more than four decades, enriching themselves and their cronies, and brutalizing their opponents. Daniel Ortega had the opportunity to be different, but to many Nicaraguans and international observers, he and his wife are even worse.

The Biden administration has already responded to this summer's arrests by imposing sanctions on four members of the Ortega government and has denied access to visas for 169 Nicaraguans in response to the political crackdown. The U.S. actions encouraged the EU and Canada to also impose targeted sanctions on Nicaraguans complicit in politically motivated crimes.

I commend the Biden administration, the EU, and the Canadian Governments for standing up for the rule of law and the rights of the people of Nicaragua. I urge the White House to investigate the assets and holdings of the Nicaraguan armed forces in the U.S. and to consider appropriate actions to hold its leadership accountable for their role in the gross violations of human rights in that country. I encourage President Biden to use every diplomatic tool and every form of targeted sanctions to obtain the release of Daniel Ortega's prisoners and to create the conditions for a genuinely free, fair, and transparent election in Nicaragua.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOSH BAKER

Mr. OSSOFF. Madam President, I rise to commend Josh Baker, a British national, on behalf of the U.S. Senate, for his vital and lifesaving contributions to the allied evacuation of Afghanistan.

Mr. Baker, of course, is internationally acclaimed for his courageous and

award-winning work documenting armed conflict and war crimes worldwide. His sacrifices in the production of vital, world-class journalism included the sacrifice of his own body, when his spine was fractured by a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated by a suicide bomber in Iraq while Baker was on assignment for PBS.

Mr. Baker's achievements include the production of landmark reports exposing ISIS war crimes against Yazidi women and girls, investigations of international terrorism, and vital reporting on refugee crises. His work has documented for the historical record and for the education of the global public the brutality and indignity imposed on innocent human beings by armed conflict.

When, on August 15, 2021, the Afghan capital of Kabul fell to Taliban forces, hundreds of thousands of foreign nationals and Afghan allies were trapped in harm's way. Mr. Baker sprung into action. In August and September of this year, Mr. Baker remotely coordinated and supported multiple lifesaving extractions of vulnerable civilians from Afghanistan.

He applied his deep experience of complex operations in hostile environments and the trust built over years of communication with journalists, sources, and contributors in the military, intelligence, and political domains, in civil society and at humanitarian agencies, to remotely coordinate and support multiple lifesaving extractions of vulnerable civilians from Afghanistan.

Mr. Baker's contributions to these historic evacuation efforts included the coordination of a lifesaving mission to rescue Afghan orphans and the coordination of logistics necessary for the safe evacuation of hundreds of Afghan women and girls.

And so let the U.S. Senate commend Josh Baker for his vital and lifesaving contributions to the allied evacuation of Afghanistan.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING RUDOLFO ANAYA

• Mr. HEINRICH. Madam President, Rudolfo Anaya's writing captured the beauty of New Mexico's landscapes and the strength and resilience of our people. It is a testament to the power of his literary work that so many New Mexicans recognize themselves and their families in the characters of his award-winning novels. Known to many as the godfather of Chicano literature, Mr. Anaya taught all of us to cherish the rich traditions, cultural heritage, and deep-rooted communities in our State.

Mr. Anaya was born and raised in Pastura and Santa Rosa, small communities in Guadalupe County. His childhood experiences on the desert flatlands of the Llano Estacado later inspired much of his best work. After

his family moved to the historic Babelas neighborhood of Albuquerque, Mr. Anaya attended Albuquerque High School and the University of New Mexico. Through many decades as a lifetime educator, Mr. Anaya taught and mentored students in Albuquerque Public Schools and at the University of New Mexico.

In 1972, Mr. Anaya published his coming-of-age novel, "Bless Me, Ultima," about a young boy's search for spirituality and his sense of place. The novel broke new ground by centering the unique experiences, complex cultural identities, and deep-rootedness of Hispanic and Chicano New Mexicans. "Bless Me, Ultima" has stirred the hearts of countless readers over the years and inspired adaptations for theater, a feature film, and an opera. On a personal note, reading "Bless Me, Ultima," was also an important part of the experiences and events that led my wife, Julie, and I to settle and raise our family in New Mexico.

Over the course of his prolific literary career, Mr. Anaya wrote a wide range of novels, stories, nonfiction essays, and poetry that captured the spirit and culture of New Mexico. In 2002, he was awarded the National Medal for the Arts by President George W. Bush and the National Endowment for the Arts. He was awarded the National Humanities Medal by President Barack Obama and the National Endowment for the Humanities in 2016.

Rudolfo Anaya leaves behind a legacy that will never be forgotten. As we remember his incredible life, my thoughts are with his family, the countless people he mentored and taught, and everyone who experienced the power of reading his work. I am certain I join so many others in our State in honoring and lifting up the life of this quintessential New Mexican. ●

#### 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUFFIELD, CONNECTICUT

• Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, I rise today to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the town of Suffield, CT. The celebration of this historic milestone, actually achieved last year in the height of the pandemic, is just as deserved as it is overdue.

How lucky Connecticut is to have won Suffield away from neighboring Massachusetts in 1749. With roots dating back to the 1600s, Suffield's early days were defined by the bounty of its fertile farmland along the western banks of the Connecticut River. Soon, beautiful Colonial and Victorian-era homes were built along the town's now iconic Main Street. Industry and commerce began to flourish, and by the 1900s, Suffield was a model Connecticut town, able to marry together agrarian humility and forward-looking modernity into one common identity.

Today, Suffield still boasts bucolic farms, breathtaking views from the Metacomet Ridge, and historic architecture. But a thriving small business